

Village News

for Bishopstone & Hinton Parva September 2016

Helping the Vicar help us – Launch of the Benefice Office pilot scheme

Bill, our Vicar, was licensed by the Bishop to divide his ministry between the Deanery and the Benefice. During a *normal* week Bill spends two days with the Deanery; has one day off; and the remaining four days works amongst the three parishes that make up the Benefice (Bishopstone with Hinton Parva, Wanborough and Lyddington).

In order to take some pressure from Bill and improve the smooth running of the parishes, it was proposed by your PCC back in late February, that centralising the administration and communication of the Church's activities within a band of volunteers and the provision of a consistent point of contact would be a good idea. While this idea emanates from within Bishopstone and Hinton Parva, its true value is unlikely to be realised unless such an office covers the whole of the vicar's activities within the Benefice. The benefice office will be closely monitored during its first few months but perhaps this is a concept that needs to evolve rather than *big bang*, so it has been decided to pilot the scheme for this end of the Benefice from **5th September** onwards.

What does it mean for you? The point of contact for the Vicar, Church activities, notification of needs or requests will not change - it is still Bill, but if you ring him on 791 359 between the hours of 10.00 am and 12.30 pm on Monday to Friday you will speak

to one of the Benefice Office Volunteers. They will take your enquiry, make the booking or arrangement, put it in the diary and confirm back with you that it has been done. Behind the scenes the volunteers will pass the communication and tasks around the Church Officer network, to make sure that those who have a job or need to make arrangements are informed and that the event occurs.

As the Benefice Office concept evolves we hope to publish the vicar's church diary on the village web-pages, with automatic updates as bookings or arrangements are made.

However, the pilot scheme's launch on 5th September will be more modest – volunteers will man the phone, a paper diary and a computer when one becomes available. Some procedures will be followed to preserve confidentiality where necessary.

Please make full use of the service and help us to help you – call:
01793 791 359
between 10.00 am and 12.30 pm
to speak to a volunteer who will take your enquiry.

Alan Taylor & John Lowry



*A beautiful picture of the Ridgeway supplied by Anthony Burdall. His article about the **Friends of the Ridgeway** is on page 10.*

www.bishopstoneandhintonparva.org for breaking news

CHURCH SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE

Sunday	4th September	8.30am	Holy Communion	Lyddington
	15 th Sunday After Trinity	10.30am	Family Communion	Bishopstone
		6.00pm	Evensong	Hinton Parva
Sunday	11th September	8.30am	Holy Communion	Bishopstone
	16 th Sunday After Trinity	10.30am	Family communion	Wanborough
		6.00pm	Evensong	Lyddington
Sunday	18th September	8.30am	Holy Communion	Wanborough
	17 th Sunday After Trinity	10.30am	Harvest & Family Service	Lyddington
		6.00pm	Evensong	Hinton Parva
Sunday	25th September	10.30am	Harvest Thanksgiving Service & lunch	Hinton Parva
	18 th Sunday After Trinity	6.00pm	Evensong	Wanborough
Sunday	2nd October	8.30am	Holy Communion	Lyddington
	19 th Sunday After Trinity	10.30am	Harvest & Family Service	Bishopstone
		6.00pm	Evensong	Hinton Parva

The Vicar's Letter

Dear Friends and Neighbours,
Where did the summer go? And so begins a new academic year. Places that we knew before the holiday season may not be the same anymore, because people have moved school, home or year group; and yet this can be a time of exciting opportunity. Talking of exciting opportunities, a new craze involving mobile phones and a kind of electronic treasure hunt was launched in recent weeks and it turns out that St Andrew's, Wanborough has been rocketed into the current century. It has been listed as a *Pokémon Go Gym*. According to an article on this new craze, it makes St Andrew's one of the coolest local places to go!

And I quote: *But how do you know where these PokéStops are in the rest of the world so that you can plan your travel accordingly?* It turns out, Ingress (an earlier version of the game) plays a huge role in figuring that out. Major players of the earlier game contributed location data, or intel, to an online database, populating a worldwide map with various notable locations. That's why Pokémon Go already knows the coolest places for you to check out in your local area, accompanied with photos. Who would have thought that the dear old Church of England would have been referred

to in such glowing terms? This game has been hailed as a significant benefit to those of us gifted within the Asperger's Spectra and with Autism. An unexpected gift that no one had predicted. St Andrew's was certainly cool as we gathered to share the end of another successful academic year for Wanborough School and celebrated the treasured memories of pupils who were about to move on in their academic journey. St Mary's, Bishopstone on the other hand was very warm indeed when we held a similar service there. All were Joyful and encouraging occasions and some of the heartfelt comments made during these services, spoke volumes in terms of the affirming environments that our schools work so hard to be.

The Olympics are well underway as I write and these games represent the culmination of a lot of hard work and preparation. A huge part of any sport is focused around a positive mental attitude regardless of what might be thrown at us. It is also an often forgotten aspect of the Christian life. Our Bibles teach us *16 Rejoice always, 17 pray continually, 18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18* (NIVUK). So despite the reminder at Evensong that we are at times mis-

erable offenders, it doesn't mean that this is what we are called to be. Sometimes giving thanks in all circumstances is a lot easier to say than to do. Adam Peaty hated the bath up until a few years ago and now he is an Olympic Gold Medallist and world record holder. Attitude was a significant part in Adam's journey and his story will be a source of inspiration and encouragement for many of us. Jesus came to give us hope, Joy and an attitude of gratitude. Precisely because we are made in the image of God, hope, joy and thankfulness should come to us naturally. Perhaps this is why it takes fewer muscles to smile than to frown.

With best wishes and prayers,

Bill

If you have anything that you would like our village prayer group to pray for please:

telephone - 790 088 or
email - villageprayers@gmail.com

Bill

Church Wardens Bishopstone

St Mary's Church has seen two weddings and a christening. Services there too have been better attended than usual, which has been very enjoyable. Emma and Tom Cripwell have agreed to jointly fill the vacant church warden position at St Swit-

huns and the bees in the Church have been removed by a specialist, repairs to the roof are underway and the churchyard has been tidied; all of which is good news. Much of the Church Wardens' and Bill's time has been spent helping people to set up the benefice Office and hence activities over the summer holidays have been diverted to this important task.

We are all looking forward to seeing as many of our fellow villagers at the services in our churches and joining us for coffee and biscuits after the Family Services. Children are always

welcome and are often asked to help out during the services.

John Lowry & Alan Taylor

Jane McCutchan's Farewell Feast
Monday 12th September
6.00pm St Mary's Church
Bishopstone

Bishopstone has been my home for 15 years but I am moving on ... to Cornwall.

Don't slip away quietly, you said, so the bells will be ringing to invite you to a **Sharing Supper**, before the PCC meeting, to ask God's blessing and say goodbye.

Everyone is welcome. Please will you bring a dish to pass, drinks will be provided.

Thank you for everything.

For those of you who don't know McC - we conspired to provide pig roast harvest suppers and at a dizzy peak produced a *Son et Lumière* of the history of Bishopstone. But her greatest achievement was the creation of the ringing gallery at St. Mary's while she was tower captain.

Jane & Editor

PCC Meeting
 7.30pm
 Monday 12th September
 St. Mary's
 Bishopstone

Contacts

Any enquiries:

The Vicar: the Rev Bill O'Connell
 The Vicarage, Church Road,
 Wanborough, SN4 0BZ
 01793 791 359
 villagevicar@hotmail.co.uk

The Churchwardens: St. Mary's
 John Lowry 01793 790 271
 john1000000@live.com
 Alan Taylor 01793 791 666
 R2attayloralan@aol.com

The Churchwardens: St. Swithun's
 Tom Cripwell 01793 791 148
 tomcripwell@gmail.com
 Emma Cripwell 01793 791 148
 emma@angelpublicity.com

The Acting Secretary: Alan Taylor
 Charlbury Cottage, Westend,
 Bishopstone, SN6 8PX
 01793 791 666
 R2attayloralan@aol.com

The Parish Safeguarding Officers:
 Jill White 01793 791 102
 Marguerite Seaward 01793 791 242

List of Other PCC Members:
 Paul Bailey (Treasurer)
 01793 790 103
 paulbailey86@btinternet.com
 Doug Stevens 01793 791 107
 doug1966@btinternet.com
 Marguerite Seaward 01793 791 242
 colinspeedway@aol.com
 Roz Boot 01793 790 508
 Sara Hall 01793 791 202
 thecourthouse@gmail.com



Patronal Festival

On Sunday 17th July the festival of St Swithun was celebrated at Evensong. John Godfree took the service beautifully and his sermon gave us many interesting details on the life of St Swithun who was Bishop of Winchester Cathedral and their patron Saint.

The flowers for our celebration looked fantastic arranged by Shirley, Lesley and Mogs.

Refreshments were enjoyed after the service.

Marguerite

Cleaning Rota - St. Mary's Church, Bishopstone

- September - Chris Thomas & Gill May
- October - Maggie Gill & Jane Golding
- November - Liz Warrick & Jane Matthews
- December - Sarah Best & Jenny Isles

Many thanks to all those who have helped to keep our church cared for and clean. Karen Stevens 791 107 and Doreen Cooper 792 965 on standby if anyone on the rota is unable to do their slot but always welcome more volunteers on the rota, if you or anyone you know might like to join us.

Sarah Bally 791 121

The Village Hall, Bishopstone - September

The hall is cleaned	Mondays		8.30 - 10.30am
Taekwondo	Tuesdays	6 th , 13 th , 20 th & 27 th	7.00 - 8.00pm
Mobile Library	Wednesdays	7 th & 21 st	10.00 - 10.55am
Mothers & Toddlers	Thursdays	8 th , 15 th , 22 nd & 29 th	9.30 - 11.00am
School	Thursdays	8 th , 15 th , 22 nd & 29 th	3.15 - 4.15pm
Parish Council	Monday	5 th	5.00 - 7.00pm
Gardening Society	Friday	9 th	6.30 - 9.00pm
Flower Show	Saturday	10 th	8.00am - 5.00pm
Daily School Dinners (not holidays) Subject to bookings			11.45-1.00pm

All bookings for the Village Hall Bishopstone will be taken via Bishopstone CE Primary School. In term time, call 01793 790 521 and speak to Sue Tremlin or leave a message on the answerphone. During school holidays there will be a message giving an alternative number to contact. We look forward to receiving your bookings for Bishopstone's excellent Village Hall. Cost for hiring the hall: £7.50 per hour for Bishopstone and Hinton Parva residents. £11 per hour for all other bookings. Cost for hiring the hall for a full day is £55.

Hinton Parva Village Hall September

Bridge Club	Fridays	2 nd , 9 th , 16 th & 23 rd	7.00 - 10.00pm
Bridge for Beginners	Wednesdays	7 th , 14 th & 28 th	6.45 - 9.15 pm
Women's Institute	Thursday	8 th	7.00 - 9.30pm
Harvest Lunch	Sunday	25 th	12noon - 2.00pm
Bridge Tea	Thursday	29 th	1.00 - 4.00pm

The Booking Secretary is Karin Thompson - 790 970
 £6.00 per hour for residents of Bishopstone & Hinton Parva
 £8.00 per hour for those living outside the parish

Private Parties Catering may be available
 Meetings etc welcome Free Parking

Bridge for Beginners

Hinton Village Hall

The sessions will run from **7.00pm - 9.00pm** (or a little later), with a mid-session break (tea, coffee and biscuits will be available).

Learn to play Bridge in a fun, friendly environment

My name is Mike Baker and I am holding a class for new starters to bridge on Wednesday evenings, commencing on the **7th September**. It will be a chance for new players to the game to build up basic bridge playing skills and for individuals who have played a bit of bridge to go over their bidding system. It will also be a chance to learn various card play techniques with the emphasis on playing hands, from session one. No previous experience of playing card games is necessary - just a willingness to try something new! Accredited teaching, using EBU recommended materials.

The good news is... The cost will be a total of **£40 for the first 10 weeks tuition***.

If you are interested, please contact:

mikebaker753@gmail.com 01793 829 406 07855 345 866.

* This may rise to £5 per lesson (£50 for each subsequent set of 10 lessons) subject to numbers.

Wanborough's Farmers' Market

Saturday 17th September
 9.00am - noon

Wanborough Village Hall

(extra parking at the Harrow Inn)

Tracey's fresh vegetables and Hinton Marsh Farm meat, Stainswick Farm's Rapeseed Oil, cakes and pies from Eve Beasley, local honey produced by Ross Gregory, and plants from Wanborough Herb Nursery.

For more information contact:

Sue and David Birley

01793 790 438

sbirley@gn.apg.org

Markets continue on the 3rd Saturday of each month.

from the 1st September
 You can book a table at the
BISHOPSTONE
QUEST FAIR

It will be held on

Thursday 24th November
6.00 - 8.00pm

£10.00 per table. Please ensure that you book early to avoid disappointment as I try to allocate just one table per product-type as this ensures that the fair is more interesting for its (and your) customers.

For more information and to reserve your space, please contact
 Chris Thomas 790 106

littlecot2010@hotmail.co.uk

Harvest Lunch

Sunday 25th September

Noon for 12.30pm

Hinton Village Hall

Don't miss out, booking essential

Bring a drink

Telephone 791 171

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Bishopstone with Hinton Parva WI

**7.30pm Thursday 8th September
Hinton Parva Village Hall**

Our Guest Speaker for September is Louise Bird from the Youth Adventure Trust. We are looking forward to hearing about the good work that this Trust undertakes for children. The Members competition is *50 words on your best adventure* – I think we will hear amazing accounts from some of our very well-travelled ladies.

Alongside our monthly competition that usually links to our speaker we always have *Bloom of the Month*. Each month our competition table looks more colourful and fragrant than the month before, it is always lovely to be able to see what grows best in different gardens and tends to be a good talking point during tea.

We also have a Market Stall for Members to sell any crafts that they may enjoy making, the stall varies from month to month depending on who has been busy. July was a particularly good month for surplus garden

produce; we often have cut flowers at this time of year. Most months Greetings cards are available, books, and again depending on who has been busy and the time of year, Jam, Marmalade and plant cuttings or seedlings, jewellery, and other hand sewn gifts. 80% of the sale goes to the Member and 20% to our WI.

Another very popular Sub-Group is our Reading Group. This month we are reading *The Moon and Sixpence* by Somerset Maugham which was first published in 1919. The book has a very different and distinct style of writing compared to more recent books read by the group and will definitely provide plenty of discussion and, as always, over tea and cake!

The committee are busy planning more additional events to fill the year, yet to come *Swan Lake* performed by the Russian State Ballet, a Christmas Crafts Afternoon and yes we are already planning our usual extremely popular Christmas Meal.

We would love to see new faces at our meetings, come along and have a chat with us, our members come from sever-

al different villages and also Old Town and we are a very friendly bunch.

For more information please contact:
Christina Petersen 07854 710 963

Wanborough Handbell Ringers New members required

We are really short of team members, and do need more people to join us for the Christmas season to enable the ringing to continue. Ringing at this time of year is very Christmassy, and is a fun, enjoyable hobby.

Practices every Sunday from:

25th September 7.30 - 9.00 pm

2 The Beanlands, Wanborough and take place until early/mid December, when we start our performances. Our music, is written in numbers, not staff notation, and is easy to learn. You could say it is ringing made easy, a bit like painting by numbers, but is actually ringing by numbers! No musical experience is required, starting with the easy tunes for a few weeks and then progressing as far as you are able.

Come along and have a go, or contact Nicky or Tony Pullan:

01793 790 904

nickyandtonyp@gmail.com

Ashbury Market

**Sunday 11th September
11.00am - 2.00pm**

Come and support our local businesses! Stalls will be selling: Meat, Bread, Vegetables, Rapeseed Oil, Jam, Honey, Cakes, Goat's Cheese, Chutneys, Soaps, Jewellery, Cards, Sand Art, Books, Gifts and more!

Mini Ashbury Market

**Saturday 24th September
8.00am - 1.00pm**

Supporting the Ridgeway Run event

Our regular Meat stall will be providing a BBQ and selling their produce alongside some of our other food stalls and more! Come and support our local businesses and also the local charities that the Ridgeway Run is supporting.

For more information contact:
Kate Watkins 01793 710 440
Kate_L_Watkins@hotmail.co.uk



In aid of Ashbury Pre-School (registered charity 1156122)



Rainbow
Baby and Toddler Group

Bishopstone Village Hall
Every Thursday during Term Time
9.30 - 11.00am
£2.50 per family, 1st session free

A stay and play session for families with children under 5. Join us for free play, art activities, snacks and singing. A great way to meet new friends.

For more info. Call Emma
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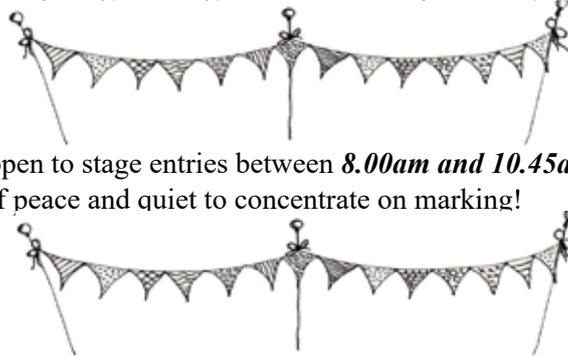
Thursday 1st September, B&D Garden club are joining in with the *White Horse Garden Club in Uffington* to see Jenny Steel, who will be speaking and showing slides on *Making a Wildlife Garden*. Jenny has a depth of knowledge of wildlife and has made many appearances on TV programmes including BBC's, *Gardener's World*, *Horizon*, and *Wild*. Please get in touch if you would like to car share, our telephone numbers are below. We'll leave **from Bishopstone Village Hall at 7.00pm**.

Bishopstone & District Gardening Club Show



Saturday 10th September

Fruit, Flowers, Vegetables, Photographs, Domestic & Crafts. Please take a look because there are lots of categories to choose from and not all of them require green fingers! Entries are open to anyone living within a 10-mile radius of Bishopstone.



Bishopstone Village Hall will be open to stage entries between **8.00am and 10.45am** on the morning of the Show, after which the Judges will need a bit of peace and quiet to concentrate on marking!

Children's Entries are free:

We're looking forward to seeing the hall decorated with their colourful paintings entitled: *Let's go fly a kite* and their imaginations can go wild by building: *My Dream House* from Lego (thanks Matthew, for this superb idea). For the seniors (12 – 18yrs) we've asked them to design six small Cup Cakes and we want them to be creative with the icing – who knows what they'll come up with!

Photography Section:

- > Seasonal change 'Two seasons' (two photos of the same spot in two different seasons. Exhibitor to indicate which seasons you have chosen.)
- > Plant or soil Texture(s)
- > Garden creepy-crawlies
- > Fungi
- > Nature's plant pattern(s)



Full Schedules and Entry Forms are free and available from:

Doreen Cooper 792 965; Chris Thomas 790 106; and Sheila Collins 790 358;

The village hall will then be open from **3.00pm** for refreshments, raffle, presentations and auction of exhibits. Admission is 30p. Children and Concessions 20p.

Please support the Village Show by coming along on the day; bring the children to see their work displayed and to collect their prizes.

We meet at 7:30pm, second Wednesday of the month, unless otherwise stated, at Bishopstone Village Hall. Friendly bunch of people, tea/coffee/biscuits, raffle. Newcomers most welcome!

Sheila

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Friends of the Ridgeway

The Ridgeway – the oldest road in Britain – is a trackway that provided a reliable trading route from the Dorset coast along the chalk Downs to the Wash in Norfolk.

For at least 5,000 years travellers have used this road. Its history can be seen in the Bronze Age at Uffington White Horse, Avebury stone circle and later hill Iron Age Hill forts. With the collapse of the Roman occupation, the road was used by invading Saxon and Viking armies and later by drovers, moving their livestock from the West



Country and Wales to markets in London. Originally the Ridgeway existed as an informal series of tracks across the chalk downs but with the Enclosure Acts of 1750, the current path developed through the building of earth banks and the planting of hedges. Part of this route was designated a National Trail in 1972; the trail is 87 miles from Overton Hill to Ivinghoe Beacon.

The Friends of the Ridgeway, a voluntary organisation and registered charity, are committed to the preservation in perpetuity of all as-

pects and features of the ancient Ridgeway track-ways along the chalk downs of Southern England, and of their associated features, monuments and access paths.

Recently, we have been successful in a primary objective of banning from the trail recreational use of motor vehicles, particularly off-road motor bikes and 4x4s. Also we were instrumental in the formation of the Ridgeway Partnership to maintain the trail.

However, the Ridgeway is under threat again, this time from reduc-

tion in grant funding. After vigorous resistance, a proposal to reduce the current year's grant by 50% was deferred, and the threat to future year's grants is very real.

Our efforts to protect The Ridgeway against this and other threats

will be greatly strengthened if we can show that we speak for a substantial membership. Also



we are keen to bring its benefits and attractions to the attention of as many people as we can. Hence, new members are very welcome.

The Ridgeway is a wonderful resource for all the communities that live along its route as well as to the wider community; this resource must be preserved and protected for future generations and its benefits brought to the attention of as many people as possible.

Further information can be obtained from :

Anthony Burdall, 2 Fernham Road, Faringdon Oxfordshire SN7 7JY
01367 240 713 07841 352 938
anthony.burdall@burdall.net

Educational grants for parish residents

Little Hinton Educational Foundation is a village charity that makes grants to support the education of local young people, up to 25 years of age. For example, we might be able to help with the cost of buying books, computer equipment, software and materials or we might pay for field trips or educational travel. In some situations, we can make donations to support youth group activities or to assist older applicants returning to education.

If you are a student at school, college or university, and live in this parish, or if you organise young people's educational activities in the parish, and would benefit from a little financial help, please write and tell us what you need.

Write to:
Mrs Valerie Brodin
The Coombs
Hinton Parva, SN4 0DH

Goddard, Coker and Edmonds Educational Charity

This charity exists to assist people under the age of 25, living in Bishopstone for 12 months or more, with the costs of books and equipment for further education.

Those interested in applying for a grant should contact the clerk to this charity, Alan Taylor:

R2attayloralan@aol.com or 791 666

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Dickie's Diary



A few Saturdays ago I was asked to lead the Ridgeway Rambling Group on a tour round Bishopstone. I had previously given a talk to them on the Icknield Way.

Round here it follows the spring lines through our downland villages under the ridgeway. You may not know that in early times it also stretched from Abbotsbury in Dorset to right over the Chilterns as far as the North Norfolk coast.

I can well understand why this group chose Bishopstone. Probably rather inadequately I tried to sketch the past and describe the present. Though not actually recorded in the Domesday Book it has been a special village since the Middle Ages. At one time the village would have been nearly self supporting with indigenous families with all the trading skills to cater for life's needs. Sheep would have produced the wool for clothes latterly made by John Povey, the taylor at Sarsons, wheat from the farms and flour from the mill (there are records of four mills) was turned into bread at the old bakery nearby. Where we live at Glebe Cottage was reputed to be an early pub so villagers had beer with the barley malted at the Malt-house close by and also in the High Street. Milk and meat came from the farms and there were two pounds, one at Oxen Place with a slaughterhouse

there (we think the sign by the mill-pond is misspelt as "Oxon" by SBC) and another at the Vorty (now Forty). There were several blacksmiths, most recently above the Village Hall and also once in New Town Lane and near Manor Farm. St Mary's Church stood as a focus point from the 12th century for faith and matching and dispatching. Before the New National School was built in 1850, school children were taught certainly from 1703



and from 1803-1840 in the Goddard's Charity School in part of the Manor House which was demolished before Prebendal Farmhouse was built in 1862. Sub-

sequently many of the brick cottages were built by the Church Commissioners, who owned all the land and were responsible for the village water supply. Many of you will know that Bishopstone even had its own fire engine, now on loan with its future being currently debated I believe. In one practice they excelled themselves and got

to the fire before it had started!

If you are familiar with Thomas Hardy's novels such as the Mayor of Casterbridge set not so far away in Wessex and you walk round the network of village paths round The City and below the Mill and you close your eyes allowing yourself to be transported back 150 years to those days, dwelling on the customs, the rivalries, intrigues and changing fortunes of the characters of that age which Hardy paints so well, this village seems to me to be so much like the villages of his Wessex. One could even believe that a *skimmy ride* could have occurred here. This was the ultimate degradation and very public ostracising of perhaps an unlucky and fallen woman. But then, perhaps it is me



that is fantasising and who knows, Bishopstone's morals may have risen above such Wessex practices!

Richard Green

(Top left - Povey's Shop in the High Street, centre - The New Fire Engine, above - the Forties (Richard's house on the right, photographs part of Paul William's collection).

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The Royal Oak Diary



We're pleased to announce the appointment of Bishopstone's Herr Russell Hatch as Bierkellarubermeister at The Royal Oak: this relaxed accidental inventor, all round good egg and scientist has a keen nose for beer, and when he heard that the undermentioned Kellarmeister was struggling to keep the beer in peak condition at all times, he volunteered his services. In return for beer, of course. And some Arkells' headmasterly-like training. So a welcome sight at the pub these days especially on a Thursday morning is a bejacketed, besafety spectacled Mr Hatch testing the beers, cleaning the beer lines and generally keeping better order than has ever before been recorded. This is exactly how a local pub should work - getting the best customers to do some of the leg work! The 3B is now so clean it doesn't taste like 3B any more, according to Mr Hatch and his drinking partners! (I'm not sure why we've created a Germanic title for this post - must be something to do with Eastbrook's regular trips to Germany to visit their Wurstmeisters and Wurstfabrikenfuhrengeschafsmittel, or something like that. Beirkellargeschaftsfuhrer was one we rolled around, for about two minutes, until we stopped laughing).

And another odd thing - Mrs Finlay at what used to be called Cues Bungalow, between Eastbrook office and Danny Finch's place in Cues Lane, gave us a couple of her beautiful big Italian blue pots to put on our deck at The Royal Oak about eight years ago. For reasons that I don't recall, we planted two fig trees in them. One of them, the one on the right as you walk in, was the victim of a drunken robbery one night, when locals from Eastbrook Cottage, long gone, thought it would be fun to take one home with them. Drink, and the weight of the pot and plant, caused me to find it on its side in the road the next morning. The pot was badly damaged. We glued it

back together, and ever since then, back in its rightful position, the fig has struggled to get going. The occasional flurry of a dozen leaves, then a strong wind and they've all gone. The one on the left, however, has taken us all by surprise. I regularly go and talk to it, of course, but even I have been amazed at its emergence into a very proper tree - and even more amazed that

this colossus is not found in the road more often, since it has hugely outgrown its pot. When the wind blows, it's like something out of the America's Cup. I have thought about tying it to the decking, but realised that a strong wind would probably take the decking with it too. Well, imagine my surprise when the Bierkellarubermeister (above) and his bidey-in (check your Aberdeenshire dialect) took me out to have a close look at it the other day. This fig has indeed outgrown its pot - if you look at the deck, two planks have been forced apart by an enormous root that has driven down thro the pot, thro the deck and into the Cues Lane bank outside the pub. It's here for ever, folks. And this year it threatens to produce some fruit. It lends, we feel, a Mediterranean style to Cues Lane, much to our surprise and delight. Thank you, Mrs Finlay.

True Heart - main roof coming off as I write this; more holes in the back building as they remove the render and watch the chalk rubble fall out; as we take the place apart, vestiges of old buildings, doorways and botch jobs done over the past 200 years, start to appear. One of the upper walls, after a fire we think, was effectively made of old rubber matting, batoned on to sealed up old stable style doors. Some rather nice



brick work over old arched doors have been seen, and will be preserved. Oh, what shall we call it? The Bishopstone Plaza? The Bishopstone Hotel? The Bishopstone? Or simply The Royal Oak? It's so separate from the Oak that I don't feel it's best calling it that, but that's a very personal view. The nickname remains The Pigsty, until someone creates something more suitable. There are and will be lots of jobs in this burgeoning Bishopstone hospitality business, so tell people, and tell us, if you have any good ideas. Recruiting now.

Tim Finney (Bierkellarmeister)

Pictured above Finney's fig trees, in sickness and in health

Ed

Mobile Library

Wednesday 7th & 21st September

Bishopstone 9.55 - 10.25am

Hinton Church 10.35am

West Hinton Farm 10.50 - 11.00am

The Mobile Library will next be in the villages on the above dates. Wide range of books available, including large print and children's.

Coffee Morning

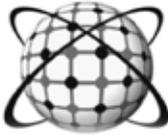
Whilst the mobile library is outside Bishopstone Village Hall, indulge in a cup of tea or coffee and catch up with all the latest.

Contact: Doreen Cooper 792 965

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Exhausted of Hinton Parva

On the way to Lydiard Park the other day, I was excited to notice signs for a Self Build and Renovation Centre. Who knew that such a thing existed, and so closely to hand? Now there's surely no excuse for the citizens of Swindon to be less than fabulously turned out. Need to lose a few pounds – no problem; simply chose the shape and size you prefer and build a new you from scratch. Skin sagging and hair lacking lustre – surely the Centre can satisfy all your renovation needs? Just around the corner from this fabulous resource, a friendly-looking woman was smiling from the undergrowth, tempting my husband to come and view his new office. He hadn't asked for the office, or even realised that he needed one, as he's been happily working from home for the last twenty years. Have you noticed these adverts? I'm not sure how long they've been there, or why I happened to notice them the other day. I suspect that for most of us they simply fade into the

background, as we're constantly assaulted by calls on our attention and time. Are we all too busy – or too jaded – to look beyond our immediate lives? I ask because I'm increasingly hearing that it's nigh on impossible to find volunteers to keep local community events running, and that there is less and less engagement with the events that do take place. In the last issue of this illustrious publication, we reported that the Hinton flower show was abandoned through lack of interest. An article about Dementia Friends, with an offer of an hour-long session aimed at making our community more dementia friendly, prompted no response at all. Recently, I was in a meeting listening to a young man expounding on the best way to encourage people to complete a questionnaire that he was writing. He felt that young people could be bribed with music credits. For the more mature audience, tickets for cream teas at a garden centre were proposed. When I suggested that hang gliding might prove equally popular with the oldies he looked aghast.

We all assume – and in assuming, we sometimes fail to anticipate reality. It's easy to assume that a lack of time is what's getting in the way of community events and volunteering – or has the time of community simply passed? Is 'life' getting in the way of community or are the events that are being offered just not appealing? What would bring out the citizens of Bishopstone and Hinton Parva? Cream teas, music or hang gliding? Or could we start a national trend for eating scones aloft, accompanied by a string quartet? And if it's Pokemon hunting you're after, I'm reliably informed there are a few hanging about the village; I might even let you know where to find them, given just a little bit of encouragement . . .

Mrs. Mantelpiece

Bishopstone 100 club	
August Winners	
1 st	20 Rev. Bill O'Connell
2 nd	73 Adrian Dent
3 rd	1 Gill May
Jo 790 485	

And Finally.....

Farewell Joan and John

The Prices' have lived in Hinton for 56 years but are now moving to Swindon to be near their family.



It will be a sad loss to us, we hope that they will be happy in their new home.

I would especially like to thank John for ensuring that the church has been open every day and also for organising, promptly and efficiently, the newsletter deliveries in the village.

Welcome the New Team

Now, happily, Fiona McAnespie, Esther Archer and Elizabeth Cooke will be joining Toby Ford and Louie Barnes to ensure that we still receive our newsletters on time.

On to other matters. In the July edition I was moaning about the lack of response to my enquires about colour ads. Lo and behold, one of the advertisers, who didn't respond (he knows who he is) approached me

with *Are we going to have a colour front page then?* So now, while I have been out and about debt collecting - something I suspect the editor of the Guardian doesn't have to do - I have been making more enquires. It seems that we have enough people willing to pay for colour advertising to fill two pages, so we only need about four more and the scheme will be viable. We may have a colour front page soon, what will I put on it?

mogs

ADVERTISING

The advertising part of the newsletter, which of course, helps to fund the enterprise, is organised by Angie Alcock. For business advertising rates please contact her: email angiealcock@hotmail.co.uk or telephone 07976 645 229.

We must warn you that adverts received without payment will not be included. For people with small, one-off advertisements there is a minimum fee

of £1.00.

As to advertising on the village website email: andygreenhalgh@agreenha@gmail.com or Jonathon Boon, wizeoldboon@hotmail.com **The copy deadline is the 15th of the month but please send large items as early as possible.** Don't forget copy must include name and contact details for validation purposes. The newsletter is delivered free of charge to all households in the two villages; donations towards the cost of production will be gratefully received by Angie.

CONTACT

email: mogsboon@hotmail.com subject newsletter (in case my computer rather rudely thinks you are junk mail) or deliver to: Brock Cottage, Hinton Parva, SN4 0DH, telephone 01793 790 626. the newsletter appears on the new village website at: www.bishopstoneandhintonparva.org